



United States Embassy Buenos Aires

CONSULAR INFORMATION SHEETS

E-MAIL: BuenosAires-ACS@state.gov

ABSENTEE VOTING IN U.S. ELECTIONS*

* For U.S. citizens who will be overseas on the date of a U.S. election.

Voters may obtain state voting information and an application for absentee ballots (*Federal Post Card Application Form - FPCA*) at <http://www.fvap.gov/> or by visiting the American Citizen Services Unit at the U.S. Embassy. You can make an appointment by visiting <http://argentina.usembassy.gov/service.html> or sending an e-mail to BuenosAires-ACS@state.gov. **Appointments are required to enter the Embassy.**

Listed below are the general steps voters follow to vote. However, requirements vary slightly by state, so we recommend checking the FVAP website above.

Step 1: The voter completes and mails the *Federal Post Card Application Form (FPCA)*, available at the U.S. Consular Section and on-line at <http://www.fvap.gov/>. **Information on oath/witness requirements should be obtained before mailing the card. Most states do not require notarization.**

Step 2: If the voter qualifies, the local election authority mails the absentee ballot to the overseas address the voter has indicated on the application form, or sends it to the fax or e-mail address indicated.

Step 3: The voter completes the absentee ballot and sends it back to the local election officials in time to meet state deadlines. **Information on oath/witness requirements should be obtained before mailing the ballots.**

You may send the FPCA directly to your state's local election office (addresses available at <http://www.fvap.gov/>) or in a separate envelope to the U.S. Consular Section, which will mail the FPCA forms to local voting officials on your behalf.

Embassy of the United States
Consular Section - ACS
Ave. Colombia 4300
1425 Capital Federal

Deadline for submitting the FPCA

Please see your state's deadlines at <http://www.fvap.gov/>.

As a general rule, you should try to send in the FPCA so that it reaches your local election officials at least forty-five days before the first election in which you are eligible to vote --- ample time for them to process the request and send you a blank ballot. If applying for both registration and an absentee ballot, you may want to mail the FPCA earlier. You must submit a new FPCA in January of every year, and whenever you move, to ensure that your most recent mailing and e-mail addresses are on file with your local election officials.

Under normal circumstances, most states and territories begin sending ballots to overseas citizens 45 days before an election. However, if you haven't received your ballot you may send in a Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB), available at <http://www.fvap.gov>

Some states allow electronic transmission of FPCAs and Ballots. To find out if your state is among them, see <http://www.fvap.gov/>.

You may not have received your absentee ballot due to the following reasons:



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- No, or inadequate, voting residence address.
- Illegible or inadequate mailing address (i.e., where the ballot is to be sent)
- Application sent to the incorrect jurisdiction.
- Failure to indicate Party preference for primary elections.
- Illegible handwriting.
- FPCA received too late.
- Required areas of FPCA not complete.
- No signature.
- No date of birth given.
- FPCA not witnessed or notarized (where required).

If you believe that there is any information missing or incorrect in your Federal Post Card Application, you need to contact the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) at:

Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program
Department of Defense
Washington Headquarters Services
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1155

World Wide Web: <http://www.fvap.gov/>
E-mail: vote@fvap.ncr.gov
Commercial: (703) 588-1584
Fax: (703) 588-0108